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CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Glendale, Ariz. — The Glendale City Council has proclaimed September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Hispanic culture is a vital part of the state as well as the city of Glendale. The Hispanic community was instrumental in Glendale's early development and cultural diversity, from the first Hispanics who arrived in the early 1890s to help build the Arizona Canal and whose descendants continue to contribute to the city's quality of life today.

National Hispanic Heritage Week was established by Congress in 1968, and it was extended to a month-long observance in 1988 to celebrate the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Mexico, Spain and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

The Hispanic population in the United States is 52 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This makes those of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic minority, constituting nearly 17 percent of the country's total population.

September 15 through October 15 coincides with the anniversary of independence for many Latin American countries, including Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua.

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